

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BONN 09532 061714Z  
ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00  
USIE-00 INRE-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07 IO-13  
L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05 /083 W  
-----061719Z 085604 /43

O R 061703Z JUN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BONN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8820  
INFO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE  
USDEL MBFR VIENNA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
USNMR SHAPE  
CINC EUR VAIHINGEN

S E C R E T BONN 09532

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PARM, NATO MBFR, GW  
SUBJECT: MBFR: FRG PROPOSAL ON DATA ISSUE

REFS: (A) STATE 129439 DTG 041712Z JUN 77  
(B) MBFR VIENNA 0281 DTG 031758Z JUN 77

1. THE EMBASSY PERCEIVES LITTLE POSSIBILITY FOR  
ADDITIONAL GERMAN FLEXIBILITY ON THEIR DATA PROPOSAL  
AT THE PRESENT TIME. SENIOR GERMAN OFFICIALS  
(GENSCHER, LEBER, SCHMIDT) ARE APPARENTLY UNITED IN  
THEIR DETERMIN-  
ATION TO AVOID TABLING NATIONAL TOTALS OR THE  
SEMBLANCE OF NATIONAL TOTALS IN VIENNA. THE FONMIN IN  
PARTICULAR APPEARS TO HOLD THE FIRM BELIEF THAT FRG  
INTERESTS WOULD NOT BE SERVED BY OFFERING GERMAN  
NATIONAL TOTALS.

2. WE BELIEVE THE GERMANS ARE WILLING TO PAY A PRICE  
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FOR A SUCCESSFUL DATA DISCUSSION, BUT NOT REPEAT NOT  
THE POLITICAL PRICE WHICH THE TABLING OF NATIONAL  
TOTALS WOULD ENTAIL. THE GERMANS BELIEVE THE SOVIETS  
ARE NOT REALLY INTERESTED IN A SERIOUS DATA DISCUSSION,  
BUT INSTEAD WISH TO USE THE DATA ISSUE TO GAIN  
LEVERAGE OVER THE FRG AND THE BUNDESWEHR. (THE FRG IS  
STILL LOOKING FOR EVIDENCE THAT THE SOVIETS WANT TO

DISCUSS DATA RATHER THAN THE BUNDESWEHR. IF THE SOVIETS REALLY WANT A SERIOUS DATA DISCUSSION, THEN, IN THE FRG VIEW, ITS PROPOSAL SHOULD PROVIDE A REASONABLE BASIS FOR ONE.

3. WE ARE NOT AS SANGUINE AS THE DELEGATION (REF B) REGARDING GENSCHER'S RESISTANCE TO A CLEAR NATO MAJORITY VIEW ON THE DATA ISSUE. GENSCHER HAS FENDED OFF U.S. PRESSURE THUS FAR, AND THERE IS NO REASON TO BELIEVE HE WOULD FAIL TO TAKE THE SAME POSITION AGAINST THE OTHER ALLIES AS WELL. CERTAINLY THE BRITISH WILL NOT BE IN THE FOREFRONT OF THOSE ALLIES PRESSURING THE FRG (SEE LONDON 08932), AND THE FRENCH VIEW ON THE SUBJECT IS WELL KNOWN.

4. FINALLY, WITH REGARD TO THE DOMESTIC POLITICAL REASONS FOR GENSCHER'S ATTITUDE, THE EMBASSY WISHES TO EMPHASIZE THAT THE FONMIN'S ROOM FOR MANEUVER ON THIS ISSUE IS NOW MORE RESTRICTED THAN EVER BEFORE. THE CDU/CSU OPPOSITION RECENTLY TOOK THE POSITION THAT MBFR MUST NOT BECOME A NEGOTIATION ABOUT THE BUNDESWEHR, WARNING THAT ITS SUPPORT FOR THE GOVERNMENT COULD DETERIORATE WERE THIS TO HAPPEN. AS WE INDICATED IN BONN 08003, WE SUSPECT GENSCHER WOULD BE MOST RELUCTANT TO ALIENATE THE CDU/CSU ON THE MBFR ISSUE.

5. IN SUM, FLEXIBILITY ON TABLING FRG NATIONAL MAN-POWER TOTALS IS IN SHORT SUPPLY IN BONN GIVEN THE GERMAN  
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VIEW OF SOVIET MBFR TACTICS TO DATE. WE KNOW THAT THE FRG MADE A MAJOR EFFORT TO DEVELOP THE POSITION THAT IT HAS JUST PRESENTED TO US, AND THAT THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE STRUGGLE EVEN TO PRODUCE THAT POSITION. WE SEE LITTLE CHANCE OF CHANGING THE GERMAN ATTITUDE FURTHER WITHOUT THE EXERCISE OF CONSIDERABLE US POLITICAL PRESSURE AND-- PERHAPS MORE IMPORTANT--WITHOUT INCURRING EVEN LONGER DELAYS BEFORE WE HAVE ANYTHING AT ALL TO PRESENT AT VIENNA.  
CASH

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**To:** STATE USMBFR  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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